

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-3 and 11-14 are amended, and new claims 17 and 18 are added.

In particular, claims 1-3 and 11-14 are amended to recite additional features described in the specification. See the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 10-20, and page 23, lines 2-5. New claims 17 and 18 also recite additional features disclosed in the specification. See the specification at, for example, page 3, lines 8-16; page 17, lines 1-3; and page 33, lines 21-22.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the references submitted with the March 12, 2001 Information Disclosure Statement. Copies of the Information Disclosure Statement, the Form PTO-1449, and the PTO date-stamped receipt are enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent 5,894,306 to Ichimura. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Ichimura discloses all elements recited in claims 1-16. Applicants respectfully submit that Ichimura does not disclose or suggest meeting data that are stored in units based on corresponding units of supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data, as recited in claims 1-3 and 11-14.

Ichimura discloses displaying data representing the background of each user-input data on the screen in addition to the user-input data inputted by the user. See col. 3, lines 59-61. Ichimura discloses detecting a state that includes at least one of circumstantial information and eventual information about a moment when the user input is detected. See col. 3, line 67 – col. 4, line 3; and col. 6, lines 41-67. Ichimura does not disclose or suggest

data that are stored in units, with each unit being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus. Therefore, Ichimura does not disclose or suggest meeting data that are stored in units based on corresponding units of supplied-data, each unit of the meeting data being identifiable by a specific processing apparatus that supplied a corresponding unit of the supplied-data, as recited in claims 1-3 and 11-14.

For at least the above reasons, Ichimura does not disclose each and every element recited in claims 1-3 and 11-14. Thus, Ichimura does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1-3 and 11-14.

Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 11-14 are patentable over Ichimura.

Claims 4-10, 15 and 16 are also patentable by virtue of their dependency on claims 3 and 14, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is respectfully requested.

New claims 17 and 18 are also believed to be patentable by virtue of their dependency on claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments:

Copies of March 12, 2001 Information Disclosure Statement,
Form PTO-1449, and PTO date-stamped receipt

Date: July 19, 2004

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